

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/644,305

Examiner

Pierre-Louis Desir

Applicant(s)

AOKI ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 08/25/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-13.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Dexter T. Chang, Registration No. 44,071, on 12/07/2006. The faxed with the corrected writing was received on 12/11/2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph on page 6, lines 8-10 as follows:

~~Fig. 3 shows~~Figs. 3A-3B are block diagrams each showing functions of an information-provider terminal employed in the information distribution system shown in Fig. 1;

Please amend the paragraph on page 6, lines 11-13 as follows:

~~Fig. 4 shows~~Figs. 4A-4B are block diagrams each showing functions of a user terminal employed in the information distribution system shown in Fig. 1;

Please amend the paragraph on page 8, lines 4-5 as follows:

~~Fig. 24 is a diagram~~Figs. 24A-24E are diagrams showing structures of data transmitted by the computer system to a user terminal;

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Please amend the paragraph on page 8, lines 6-7 as follows:

~~Fig. 25 is a diagram~~Figs. 25A-25F are diagrams showing structures of data transmitted to the computer system by a user terminal;

Please amend the paragraph on page 8, lines 8-10 as follows:

~~Fig. 26 is a diagram~~Figs. 26A-26G are diagrams showing structures of data transmitted by the computer system to an information-provider terminal;

Please amend the paragraph on page 8, lines 11-13 as follows:

~~Fig. 27 is a diagram~~Figs. 27A-27G are diagrams showing structures of data transmitted to the computer system by an information-provider terminal;

Please amend the paragraph on page 10, lines 22-23 as follows:

~~Fig. 52 is~~Figs. 52A-52C are diagrams each showing a sequence of inter-bank financial settlement operations;

END OF AMENDMENT.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-13 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The independent claims disclose an information distribution system wherein a computer system predicts a mobile information terminal's moving destination and moving direction by inferring said mobile-information terminal's location displacements

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along the time series on the basis of information on locations of said mobile information terminal including a pre-registered information category whose information distribution service, distribution and notification are desired, and on the basis of an inference formula provided in advance with said mobile information terminal's moving direction and location; and said computer system determines an information-provider terminal predicted to exist at said predicted moving destination of said mobile information terminal on the basis of locations of information-provider terminals pre-recording plans to distribute information as a notification, and determines distributed and reported information corresponding to an information category registered in advance by said mobile information terminal among pieces of information to be provided by said selected information-provider terminal, and the mobile terminal responding to the mobile information terminal responding to distributed and reported information, and the computer system relaying the response to the selected information. Further, the independent claim discloses a system wherein if it is impossible to determine an inference formula for predicting said mobile information terminal's moving direction and location from location displacements of said mobile information terminal with each geographical position used as an origin on the basis of map information, said computer system finds an inference formula for predicting said mobile information terminal's most recent moving destination and most recent moving direction each time most recent information on a location of said mobile information terminal is obtained. The independent claim also disclose a system wherein a computer system executes the steps of: informing a mobile-communication operator of information on a mobile information terminal moving to a location at a place in an area at and/or in said mobile information

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terminal's moving destination and/or moving direction predicted on the basis of an inference formula defined from information on locations of said mobile information terminal; finding a moving speed of said mobile information terminal from location information accumulated in the past; informing an information-provider terminal inferred to be a terminal located at said mobile information terminal's moving destination of an expected time of arrival of said mobile information terminal at said moving destination where said expected time of arrival is a time predicted by using an inference formula based on a present location of said mobile information terminal; determining moving means, on which a user of said mobile information terminal is riding, from a combination of said mobile information terminal's moving speed and displacements in location information; and informing said mobile-information terminal of operational information obtained from an enterprise managing operations of said moving means.

The cited references do not disclose nor suggest the limitations as described in the independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pierre-Louis Desir whose telephone number is (571) 272-7799. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00AM- 5:30PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Feild can be reached on (571) 272-4090. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Pierre-Louis Desir
12/13/2006

JEAN GELIN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

